

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4, 7-8, 10 and 13 are currently pending. Reconsideration of the grounds of rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herein.

As amended, claim 1 recites a method for delivering home repair information to a home owner over a global computer network. The home owner is presented with a first Internet web page that contains a first list of home repair topics. In response to selection by the home owner of a selected home repair topic from the first internet web page, the home owner is presented with at least one second internet web page that contains a second list of home repair topics, wherein the second set of home repair topics corresponds to specific home repair topics associated with the home repair topic selected from the first web page. A video segment is downloaded to a computer associated with the home owner in response to selection by the home owner of a home repair topic from the second internet web page. The video segment includes step-by-step instructions for completing a home repair project associated with the home repair topic selected from the second internet web page. The home owner is also presented with a web page that contains a list of materials required to complete the home repair project, and a list of suppliers in the geographic location of the home owner that can supply the home owner with the items on the list of materials. In addition, the home owner is presented with a list of contractors in the geographic location of the home owner that can complete the home repair project. The list of contractors that can complete the project is different from the list of suppliers that can supply the materials required to complete the project. Claims 7 and 13 contain similar limitations, but are directed to auto and cooking projects, respectively.

The primary thrust of the invention of claim 1 is to provide the home owner with detailed information so that the home owner can complete a home repair project himself. The detailed information includes step-by-step instructions for completing the project, a list of materials that the home owner will need to purchase in order to complete the home repair project, and a list of local suppliers that the home owner can turn to in order to purchase the materials that the home owner will need to complete the project himself. However, the present invention also recognizes that a home owner may embark on a home repair project with the intention of completing the project himself and then, part way into the project, discover that he lacks the time or expertise to finish the project. In order to plan for such a contingency, the present invention also provides the home owner with a list of local contractors that the home owner can turn to in order to complete the project, in the event that the home owner is unable to do himself. By providing both the information that the home owner will need to complete the project himself (e.g., the step by-step instructions for completing the project, list of materials, and local materials suppliers), and the separate list of contractors that can complete the project, the present invention provides the home owner with confidence at the time that he embarks on a home repair project that he will be able to turn to a pre-identified reliable contractor to finish the job in the event that the home owner is unable to do so himself.

Amended claim 1 contains many of the limitations of previous claim 6, which was rejected over a combination of Gerszberg, Gile and Mann. In arguing that Gerszberg taught both the steps of presenting the home owner with a list of suppliers in the geographic location of the home owner that can supply the home owner with each of the items on the list of materials and a list of contractors in the geographic location of the home owner that can complete the home

repair project, the Examiner cited to Gerszberg at col. 8, lines 12-31, 55-67 and col. 9, lines 1-7, 22-29, which provide as follows:

As shown in FIG. 5A, the main menu of the catalog interface may include generic product categories such as groceries, home electronics, furniture, men's clothing, women's clothing, children's clothing, appliances, camera equipment, etc. The menu may also include generic service categories such as home repairs/improvements, dry cleaning, diaper service, pizza delivery, etc. The lists of products and services may be provided on the same menu, as in FIG. 5A, or on separate menus. Of course, the lists of products and services which are displayed to customers are not limited to those shown in FIG. 5A. In practice, the lists of products and services may be customer-configured based on specified preferences which determine a customer profile, which profile may be stored by NSP 36. Alternatively, the lists may be generated by FMP 32 and/or NSP 36 for a particular customer or group of customers based on demographics and preferences determined by previous customer purchases. Again, this demographic information and previous customer purchase data may be stored by FMP 32 and/or NSP 36.

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During an initial use of the catalog interface, or even during an initial use of the videophone itself, the customer is given an opportunity to enter an address which he/she can designate as a delivery address for products and services. This information is supplied to FMP 32 and/or NSP 36 to generate a table or other data structure which relates the unique identifiers or addresses of the customers or devices to a delivery address. In more sophisticated implementations, a detailed purchase profile of the customers may be generated. This purchase profile may include customer preferences with regard to delivery address; a particular shipping company (e.g., U.S. Postal Service, Federal Express, any overnight delivery service, any two-day delivery service, etc.); whether the customer prefers to insure the products to be shipped; a preferred delivery time (e.g., mornings, afternoons, evenings, weekends); whether the customer prefers to purchase extended warranties; and the like. Once entered, this purchase profile is used whenever a customer makes a purchase and simplifies the purchase procedure.

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Using the catalog data of NSP 36, an identification of companies that deliver pizza in the area in which the customer lives is presented in the menu of FIG. 5B. NSP 36 may use the identifier or address of the videophone and the delivery address associated with that videophone identifier or address to conduct a database query to determine the list of pizza companies that deliver to the delivery address. With reference to FIG. 5B, Companies 1, 2, and 3 were found to deliver to the delivery address.

At most, these passages from Gerszberg teach the presentation to the customer of a list of vendors that can supply a good or service. There is no teaching in Gerszberg of presenting the

home owner with a list of materials required to complete a home repair project, a list of suppliers in the geographic location of the home owner that can supply the home owner with each of the items on the list of materials and a separate list of contractors in the geographic location of the home owner that can complete the home repair project, as set forth in claim 1.

Moreover, it would not be obvious from Gerszberg, or any of the other cited references, to present the home owner with both a list of suppliers in the geographic location of the home owner that can supply the home owner with each of the items on the list of materials and a separate list of contractors in the geographic location of the home owner that can complete the home repair project. Simply put, Gerszberg is addressed to consumers that are interested in buying a good or service, not persons who are interested in completing a home repair project themselves. Accordingly, there would be no need or motivation in Gerszberg to provide the consumer with a “contingency plan” (i.e., the separate list of contractors recited in the present claims) in order to provide the home owner with confidence at the time that he embarks on a home repair project that he will be able to turn to a pre-identified reliable contractor to finish the job in the event that the home owner is unable to do so himself.

Claims 7 and 13 are similar to claim 1, but are directed respectively to auto and cooking projects. It is respectfully submitted that claims 7 and 13 are allowable for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is submitted that all pending independent claims are allowable over the cited references, and all dependent claims are allowable because all such claims depend from an allowable base claim. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any fees due in connection with the filing of the response to Deposit Account No. **50-0310**.

Respectfully submitted,

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